

THE ARGUS.

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By THE J. W. POTTER CO.

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Correspondence solicited from every township in Rock Island county.



Monday, June 12, 1905.

Hurrah for President Roosevelt! It is much better to stop a fight than to start one.

They say that John Hay will have some new diplomatic ideas in his little breeches pocket when he gets home.

The lack of team work seems to be of potential effect in any walk of life, and not essentially applicable solely to baseball. Look at the prolongation of the teamsters' strike in Chicago, for instance.

Humanity demanded the ending of the Russo-Japanese war, and it seems to have received response. Humanity demanded that Spain be thrashed in 1898, but it did not demand the purchase of human souls or the swiping of territory.

That Cincinnati interview of Dick Yates announcing that he is full-fledged candidate for the United States senate and that he will carry his campaign into every county in the state under the primary law regulations, is likely to cause your Uncle Shelby to sit up and look interested.

The Philadelphia councilmen who voted for the gas steal are hooted by their neighbors, and uncomplimentary epithets are shouted at them in their places of business. Had they got away with it, there would probably have been nothing said beyond the condemnation of the newspapers. It is sad to know that much depends in this life on how far a man succeeds oftentimes when he is not living up to the strict requirements of conscience.

The Democratic Remedy.

The republican administration recommended that the interstate commerce commission be given power to fix and control railroad freight rates. That was in accordance with the democratic campaigns for at least three presidential campaigns, says the Commoner.

The republican commissioner recommended that "corporations engaged in interstate commerce must show clean hands before doing business outside of the state of their origin" and must obtain federal license. This was the plan recommended by the much-abused Kansas City platform.

The republican administration has, with respect to one trust, directed the enforcement of the criminal clause of the Sherman anti-trust law, the remedy for which the democrats have been contending for several years.

And now the republican secretary of war, by directing that canal supplies be bought in Europe because the prices charged by American tariff barons are excessive, has turned his back upon his party's long-made claim that the American manufacturer was entitled to protection as a right, and has at least one foot on domestic ground.

Some of these eminent republicans are making very free with democratic doctrines and democratic remedies. One by one they seem to be taking up the very things which they have so vigorously and so often condemned. No one can say what will be the next democratic remedy they will take; no one can say what will be the next democratic doctrine missed from its accustomed place.

An old colored woman in Washington, after having been treated for several weeks by a physician of her own color, called in a white doctor. She was asked by her new attendant, "Did the other doctor take your temperature?" The patient replied: "I dunno. I haven't missed nothin' but my watch so far."

The Foreign Trade of Japan.

The department of commerce and labor has furnished some interesting details of the trade of Japan for the calendar year 1904, with comparisons with the trade of former years. The most salient feature is the rapid increase in the volume of the trade, but this is no more than must be expected from the remarkable development of Japan in recent years. Ten years ago the imports of Japan amounted to \$60,000,000. Last year they summed up \$185,000,000, an increase of nearly 200 per cent. The exports last year amounted to \$159,000,000, as compared with \$102,000,000 four years earlier.

The United States is the best customer of Japan, taking nearly a third of her exports. Japan is also a good customer of ours, but not in the same degree. The imports of Japan are supplied principally by Great Britain, British India, the United States, China and Germany. Omitting fractions,

Great Britain sends her 20 per cent of her total imports, British India 19, the United States 16, China 15 and Germany 8 per cent. These figures represent the trade of last year.

Reference to the trade of past years shows that this country has made remarkable progress in capturing Japanese trade. In 1884 we had but 8.4 per cent of the smaller trade of that year, while Great Britain had 43 per cent of it. Now the trade of Great Britain, while showing a small positive increase, is less than half relatively what it was a score of years ago, while our exports are not only positively much greater, but relatively are about double. The trade, therefore, is well worth cultivating, though it is quite possible to overrate its importance.

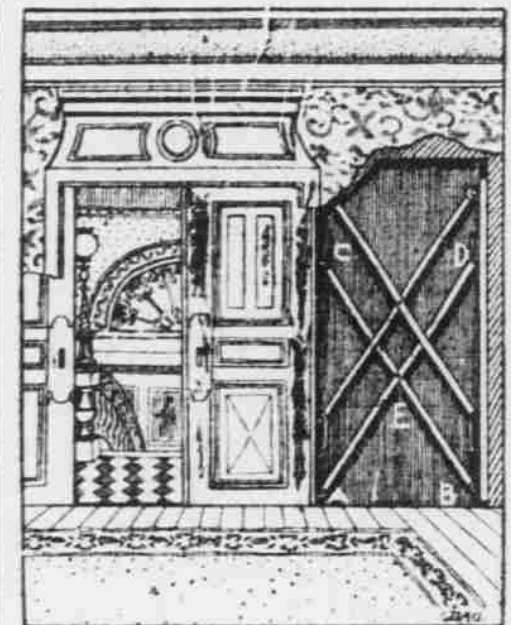
When Japan is again at peace, the number of her producers will be greatly increased, and she will be in a position to supply her own wants in a larger degree than is possible during the prevalence of war. She will also have more articles for exchange, but as it is not the policy of this country to promote free exchange, too much importance must not be ascribed to this.

A NEWFANGLED DOOR.

Slid Into Wall Without Use of Wheels or Rollers.

A new type of sliding door which employs neither wheels nor rollers is described in a recent issue of La Nature, Paris. It is said to be particularly easy to open or shut and to be free from the distressing liability to become jammed that distinguishes most forms of sliding doors.

This new door is hung on "lazy tongs" arranged in such manner that



DOOR HUNG ON "LAZY TONGS."

it will always move silently and without effort.

It may be seen from the accompanying picture that the mode of suspension consists entirely of two levers, A and B, C, united at E and able to slide at C and D, while turning about the points A and B.

The points B and D, of which one is pivoted and the other slides, are fixed on the wall, and when the door is opened the combination folds up as shown at the left of the picture. There have been shown here two similar systems of levers, supporting the same door, one with pivots below at the points A and B and the other with them above. This arrangement is made to obtain complete equilibrium when a single door is used to close the opening, or, as is here supposed, when the two doors are independent.

When, on the contrary, they are dependent, that is, when they always must open or close together—only one system of levers is necessary for each, but care must be taken to locate the pivots above for one and below for the other and to connect the two doors by an endless chain engaging two pinions with ball bearings and placed horizontally under the door. The doors are attached to opposed sections of this chain. In any case complete ease of motion is secured by the use of the "lazy tongs" suspension.

Sewing Machine Needles

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DANGER IN DELAY.

Kidney Diseases Are Too Dangerous For Rock Island People to Neglect.

The great danger of kidney troubles is that they get a firm hold before the sufferer recognizes them. Health is gradually undermined. Backache, headache, nervousness, lameness, soreness, lumbago, urinary troubles, dropsy, diabetes and Bright's disease follow in merciless succession. Don't neglect your kidneys. Cure the kidneys with the certain and safe remedy, Doan's Kidney Pills, which has cured people right here in Rock Island.

A. Steers, of 321 Nineteenth street, says: "My kidneys caused me a great deal of discomfort to say nothing of the money I spent trying to cure myself. There were constant pains in the small of my back and if I changed my position quickly I was rewarded with pain shooting through my kidneys. There was too frequent action of the kidney secretions accompanied by a burning sensation. Procuring Doan's Kidney Pills I took the remedy as directed. I am satisfied they are an excellent remedy, and I know of others who received equally as much benefit as I."

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DAILY SHORT STORY

A HERO'S COWARDICE?

[Original.]
When under flying colors and to the sound of beating drums he marched away in the ranks to the war a group of girls stood on a porch waving. On all the faces save one was a pleasurable excitement. That one waved sadly, languidly, as if bidding adieu to invisible spirits. She was blind.

During the four years of campaigning that followed he never forgot that face. When rain or snow beat upon him, when the bullet sang its melodious yet terrible song, when shells whined above or solid shot showered him with the soil of the south, his eyes were fixed, not on the "colors," but on that remembered face—sweet, melancholy, enduring.

When he returned he was riding at the head of the column, a distinguished soldier. The line of march led past the porch where he had seen the blind girl, but she was not there. In his disappointment he forgot his honors, the clamoring throngs, the shouts that raved about him like an incoming tide. Then farther on his pulses quickened at seeing her at a window. She was standing between two friends. As he approached he saw her say something which he could not but infer was a request to be told where was the hero of the hour, for one of them directed her hand, in which she held a small flag, so that when she waved it it was to him. He reined in his horse, faced toward the window and reverently raised his hat. Then when he had seen her friends tell her what he had done and saw that he had given her a pleasurable emotion he turned and moved forward.

The excitement of that emotion gave him his first fixed purpose in life. He had been eminently fitted for a soldier, whose career is like the wind which bloweth where it listeth. He had felt a pleasure in the roar of battle, in the accomplishment of achievements in proportion to the hazard of the undertaking, but this human delight was to die away before his newborn spiritual purpose as a storm that has passed gives place to the soft sunlight. The inspiration that had been kindled in his heart was to comfort a bereaved soul.

But his time was not his own. There was much to do in closing up the wound of the war and in disbanding the armies, and he was retained even after this had been done in an important command. Weeks passed into months and months into years, and the object of his life seemed as remote as ever.

One summer while suffering from the effects of an old wound, desirous of change and rest, he assumed the plain garb of a citizen and went incognito to an unpretentious summer resort. As he mounted the steps of the porch he saw sitting in a wicker chair the blind girl. He had purposely chosen this remote place where he would not be recognized, and after he had seen those who were staying in the house he was pleased that there was none who knew him. He did not ask for an introduction to the girl—he did not need one. No one needed an introduction to her, for her blindness caused her to be always dependent. He waited one morning until he saw her rise from her chair and grope her way into the house, then asked if he might assist her. Never before had he experienced the sacred emotions as when he took the hand and directed the steps of this stricken girl.

From that moment he was her constant companion. Perhaps it was her weakness that led her to admire the stern duties of a soldier, and when he admitted that he had been in the struggle of the states she begged him to tell her of his experiences. But he, like her, valuing his counterpart, disparaged war and led her into more ennobling topics. She grew to love the tones of his voice, the unexpressed sympathy apparent in his every word and action.

Then came a time when, having prepared the way, there was nothing for him to do but tell her that from the moment he saw her he pitied her and of the desire that had been born in him to devote his life to that which would be some recompense for her misfortune. But when he faced this announcement a sense of his own unworthiness loomed up before him. Tell her that he wished to give her comfort when he felt that he would be honored by the right to do so! He shrank from such a position.

This was not all. He must drop his incognito and become known to her as a hero. The incident of her waving to him on his return from the war and his stopping to salute her must be made known to her. What reason would he give for all this secrecy? He thought of a dozen ways in which it might be misconstrued. He who had stormed fortifications shrank from telling a blighted girl that he was a hero. Again and again he started in to make a breach in these imaginary ramparts, always to make an inglorious retreat.

And what was the result? He threw up his command—and that in face of the enemy—and shifted the responsibility to another. He went to the girl's mother and begged her to speak for him words that he dared not speak.

There is a poem in which a poet is described as gaining admittance to heaven by carrying there the most valued gift, a fear of a repentant sinner. In a similar way the soldier won an entrance into the girl's heart. To describe her sensations at this modest surrender of a hero, coming as it did with the knowledge that he was the man whose deeds had caught her youthful enthusiasm, would require the genius of a poet.

And then it was that the soldier began what he considered a life worth living. F. A. MITCHEL.

ROCK ISLAND

Saturday,
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To the Brides and Grooms of June

IT'S A GREAT MISTAKE TO WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE BEFORE SELECTING YOUR FURNITURE, DRAPERIES, RUGS AND CARPETS. WHILE WE HAVE A WONDERFULLY LARGE ASSEMBLAGE OF ALL THE ARTICLES THAT HAVE A PART IN MAKING THE HOME ATTRACTIVE, WE WOULD IMPRESS UPON YOUR MINDS THE ADVANTAGES OF EARLY BUYING. — TODAY WE PROBABLY HAVE THE VERY BUFFET, BRASS BED, LIBRARY TABLE, CHIFFONIER, DAVENPORT OR RUG THAT YOU ADMIRE ABOVE ALL. OTHERS ARE LOOKING AND BUYING, AND OTHERS MAY TAKE WHAT YOU WOULDN'T MISS FOR THE WORLD. SO COME AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE, AND PICK FROM THE GEMS OF OUR STOCK. — WE'LL RESERVE WHATEVER YOU MAY FANCY FOR FUTURE DELIVERY. AND THEN, AGAIN, IT'S SO MUCH MORE SATISFACTORY TO BUY LEISURELY THAN HURRIEDLY. WE'LL SUGGEST MANY PRETTY IDEAS THAT YOU WOULD NEVER THINK OF. FURNISHING HOMES IS OUR STUDY, YOU KNOW.

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